

PANEL SESSION: Stewardship: All Shapes and Sizes

Session Description:

This interactive session will combat afternoon drowsiness by convening donor relations professionals with expertise in various aspects of our profession. They will share actionable ideas for campaign stewardship, individual stewardship plans, stewardship for a small shop, and more. The moderated panel will invite questions and suggestions from attendees. Come prepared for a spirited discussion and expect to walk away with ideas you can implement in your own organizations.

Moderator:

Mary Weingartner

Director of Donor Relations, University of Chicago



Mary is currently the Director of Donor Relations at the University of Chicago. She began her career in stewardship at the University of Illinois Foundation in 2006 and has since held positions at Loyola University and YMCA of the USA. Mary holds a BA in philosophy and religion from Truman State University and is president of their Chicago Alumni Chapter. She is an active member of ADRP, having served on the planning committees for the three previous Midwest Regionals and the Editorial Board for *the Hub*. For ADRP International Conferences, she has been a presenter, a member and co-chair of planning committees, and is chairing the 2018 ADRP International Conference in St. Louis, October 2 – 5.

Panelists:

Fiona Royer

Manager, Stewardship, Lincoln Park Zoo



Fiona Royer is the Stewardship Manager at Lincoln Park - the first person to hold a dedicated stewardship role at the organization. During her eight years at the zoo Fiona has revamped the donor events calendar, tackled dedication opportunities, worked with the Board of Trustees, and developed a thoughtful stewardship plan. Originally from the United Kingdom and now a citizen of the United States, Fiona is passionate about her adoptive home of Chicago. With qualifications in the diverse subjects of Economics and Interior Design, and experience as a writer, Fiona puts her business and design backgrounds to good use initiating creative ideas for donor engagement. She is an active member of the Association of Donor Relations Professionals, and has participated in organizing the Midwest Regional Forum for the past three years.



Rebekah Nowak

Senior Associate Director, Donor Relations, Northwestern University

Rebekah Nowak is the senior associate director of donor relations at Northwestern University. She has been in this role for five years and has previously worked on the Reunions Team as well as for the McCormick School for Engineering and Applied Science. In her role, she works with the principal gift level donors to the University. Previous development experience comes from her time at the Newberry Library and Chicago Botanic Garden. Rebekah received her undergraduate degree from St. Olaf College and a master's degree in public service management from DePaul University.



Carrie Casper

Senior Director, Campaign and Donor Engagement, IIT

Carrie Casper is currently the Senior Director, Campaign and Donor Engagement at Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago. She joined Illinois Tech in 2008, and has worked in the donor relations and stewardship field for five years. Prior to joining Illinois Tech, Carrie held positions at Lyric Opera of Chicago and Lincoln Park Zoo, focusing on volunteer management and event planning. Carrie holds a bachelor of music education from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Carrie is a current board member of the Development Leadership Consortium and the University of Illinois Campus Alumni Advisory board, and served recently as the president of the Chicago Illini Club and as board chair of the Metro Board at Metropolitan Family Services.



Megan Pratt

Donor Events Planner, The Rotary Foundation

Megan is the Donor Events Planner at The Rotary Foundation in Evanston, Illinois. Her primary responsibilities include managing all aspects of the donor events and amenities at Rotary's annual International Convention, as well as assisting with logistics for other top-tier donor events. Previously, she served as the Donor Stewardship Specialist and was instrumental in pioneering Rotary's donor impact reporting, as well as several other new stewardship initiatives. Prior to joining Rotary in 2014, Megan held a number of event and volunteer management roles at universities and arts organizations in the Chicagoland and Charlotte, North Carolina areas. She is a current member of the Steppenwolf Associates and immediate past board member of CenterStage Lake Forest. Megan holds a BA in Theatre Studies and Spanish from Davidson College in Davidson, North Carolina.

Knowledge Domains: Current and Prospective Donor Research, Relationship Building, Ethics and Accountability

Keywords: Campaign stewardship, individual stewardship, event stewardship strategy, planning